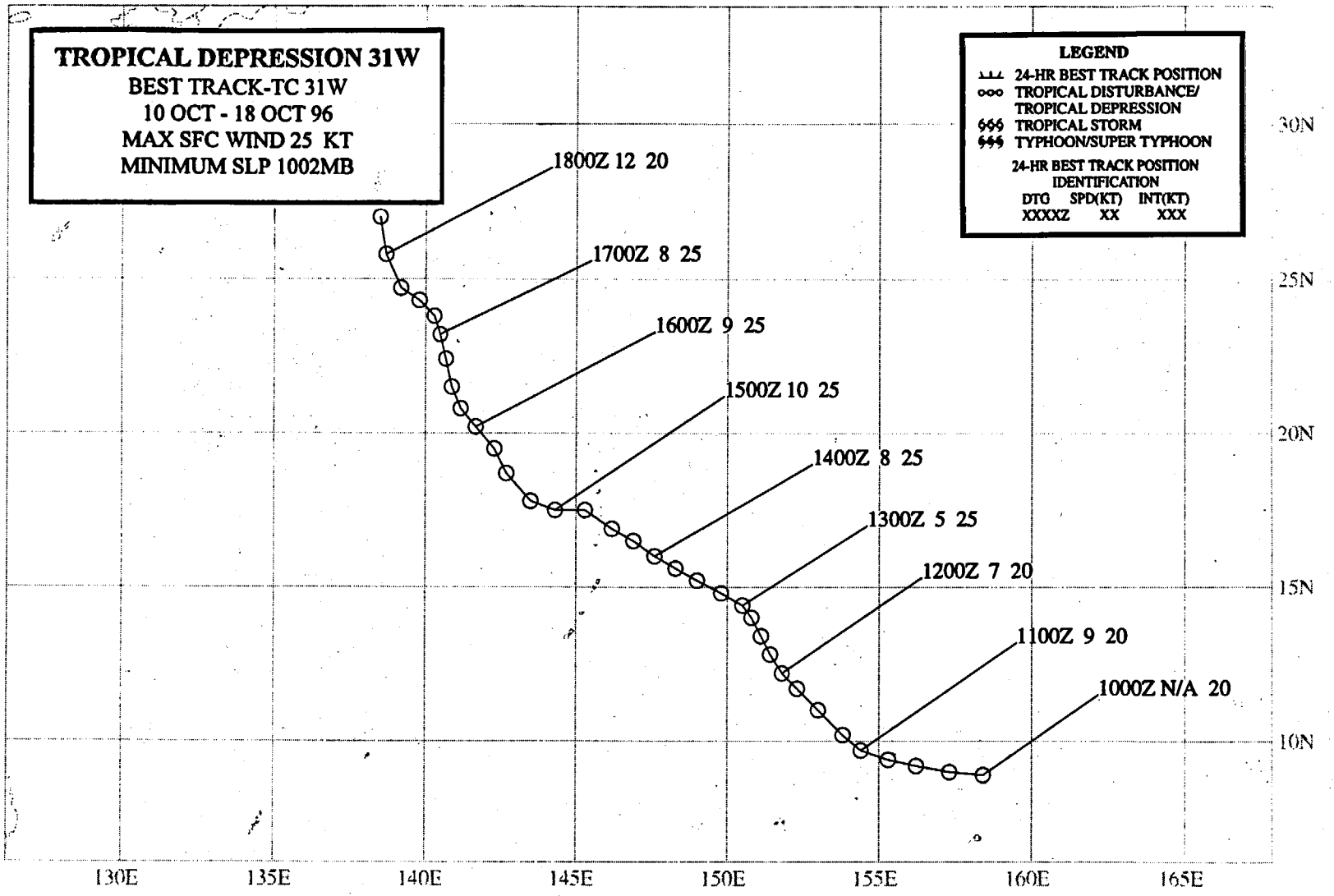
TROPICAL DEPRESSION 31W
BEST TRACK-TC 31W
10 OCT - 18 OCT 96
MAX SFC WIND 25 KT
MINIMUM SLP 1002MB
LEGEND
24-HR BEST TRACK POSITION
TROPICAL DISTURBANCE/
TROPICAL DEPRESSION
TROPICAL STORM
TYPHOON/SUPER TYPHOON
24-HR BEST TRACK POSITION
IDENTIFICATION
DTG SPD(KT) INT(KT)
XXXXZ XX XXX
1800Z 12 20
1700Z 8 25
1600Z 9 25
1500Z 10 25
1400Z 8 25
1300Z 5 25
1200Z 7 20
1100Z 9 20
1000Z N/A 20
30N
25N
20N
15N
10N
130E
135E
140E
145E
150E
155E
160E
165E

TROPICAL DEPRESSION 31W

For much of October, winds throughout most of Micronesia were light and variable in association with a weak monsoon trough. Deep convection (loosely organized into discrete ensembles of MCSs) was located in an east-west zone across the low latitudes of the WNP. Several of the tropical disturbances in this maximum cloud zone became significant TCs. The first TC of October, Abel (30W), originated from a monsoon depression in this cloud band. The next two TCs following Abel — Tropical Depression (TD) 31W and Typhoon Beth (32W) — developed simultaneously during the middle of the month (Figure 3-31-1). The tropical disturbance which became TD 31W originated southeast of Guam, and was located approximately 600 nm (1100 km) southeast of the tropical disturbance which became Beth (32W). This tropical disturbance was first mentioned on the 100600Z October Significant Tropical Weather Advisory. On 13 October, the pre-TD 31W disturbance acquired a clearly defined LLCC on satellite imagery, prompting the JTWC to issue a Tropical Cyclone Formation Alert at 130330Z October. The first warning on TD 31W, valid at 130600Z, soon followed when satellite intensity estimates indicated 25 kt (13 m/sec).

Moving toward the northwest, TD 31W exhibited a shear-type cloud pattern (Figure 3-31-2) for all of its life. Satellite intensity estimates and the best-track intensities remained at 25 kt (13 m/sec) for several days. During the night of 17 October, the deep convection associated with TD 31W decreased in amount and became sheared well to the east of the LLCC. The final warning on TD 31W was issued, valid at 171200Z, as the system dissipated over water.

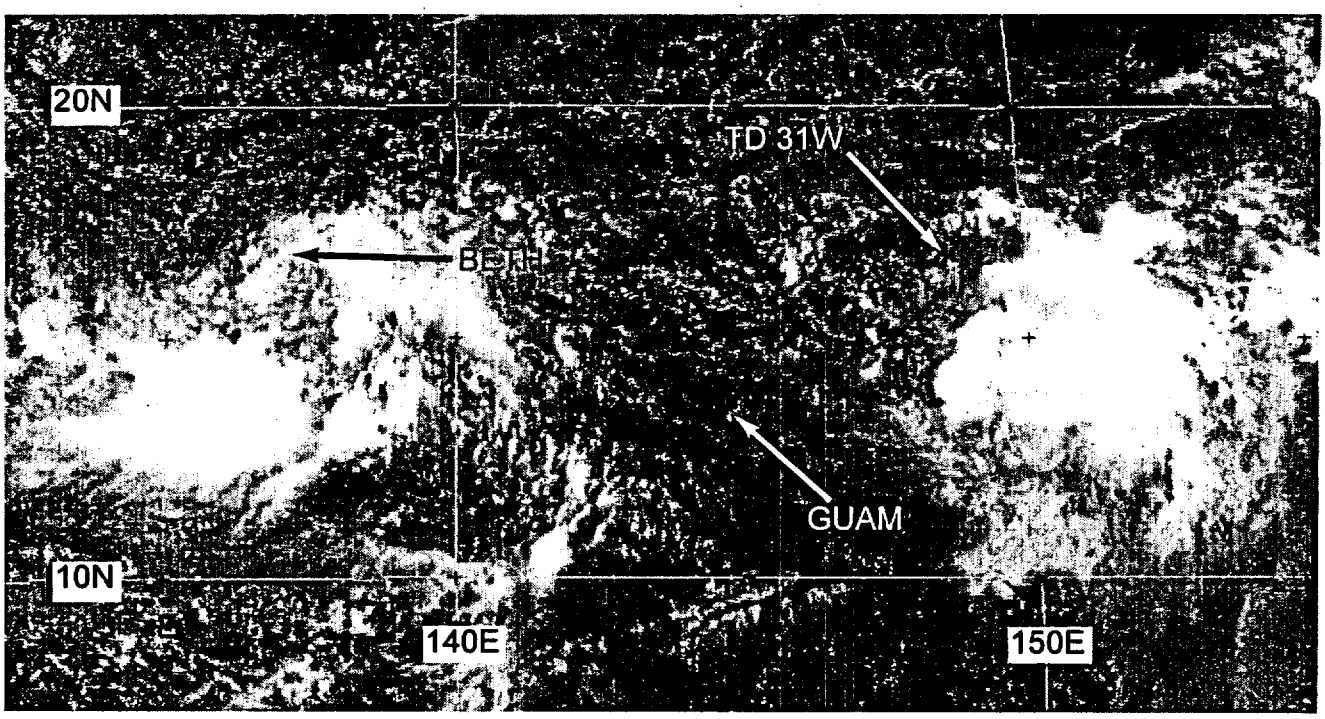

Figure 3-31-1 Typhoon Beth (32W) and TD 31W developed simultaneously. Beth became a typhoon, but TD 31W failed to become a mature TC (122331Z October visible GMS imagery).

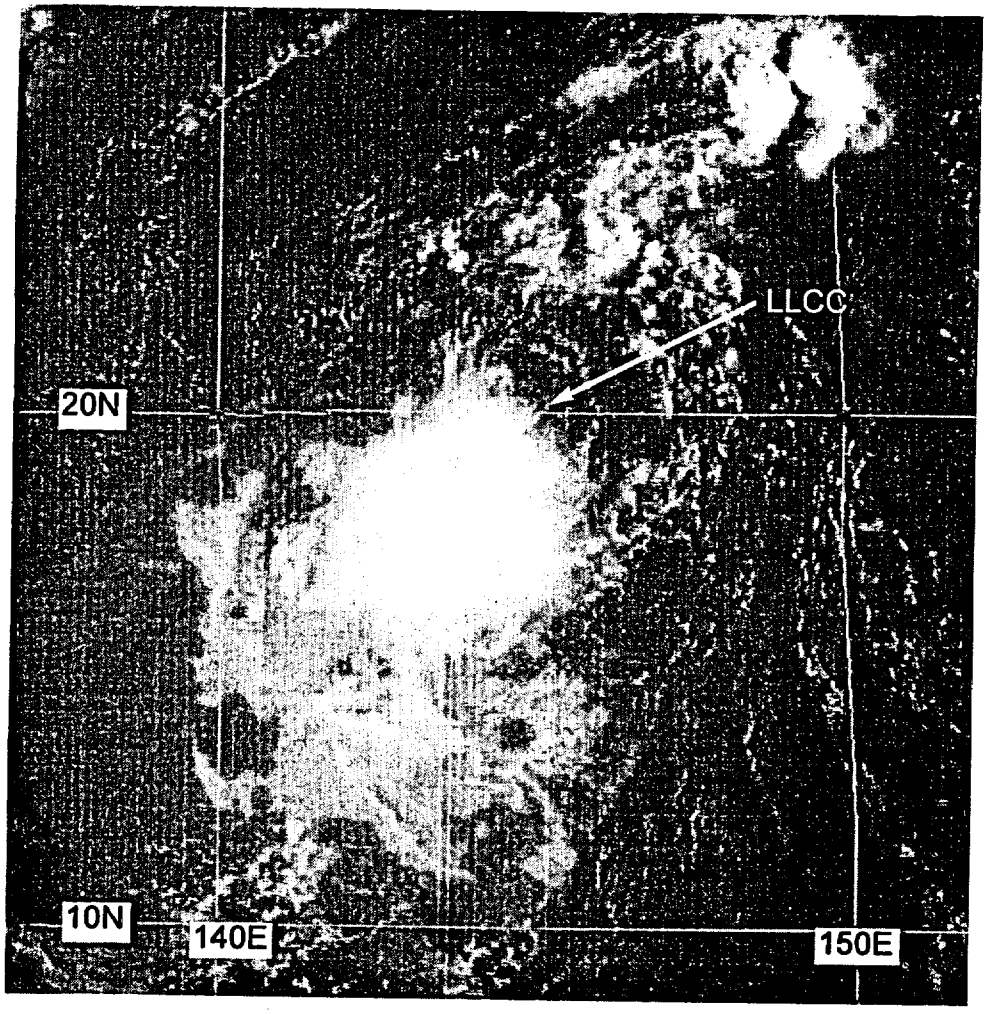

Figure 3-31-2 For all its life, TD 31W exhibited a shear-type cloud pattern. The LLCC is located to the north of the deep convection in this image (152224Z October visible GMS imagery).